PROGRESS REPORT THE SECOND

SUPPORTED BY SOUTHERN arts

Illumination

The 1992 British National Science Fiction Convention

17 - 20 April 1992
at the
Norbreck Castle Hotel, Blackpool, UK

Membership: Attending £20,
Supporting £12

379 Myrtle Road
SHEFFIELD S2 3HQ

CA '90.

Editorial

As some of you may have heard Gene Wolfe has decided to withdraw from being a guest at WINCON II. We, as a committee, are naturally disappointed that he has decided not to come to our convention, but realise that sometimes these things happen. Needless to say we are not going to let his decision hinder our preparations and are even now attempting to recruit a replacement American author - we hope to make an announcement before too long.

For those of you who were particularly interested in seeing and meeting Gene we offer our sincere apologies, but hope you appreciate that events are completely out of our hands.

Brian Stableford

"The Science Fiction Book of Lists" tells us that Brian Stableford had published more than a million words before the age of 30. This remarkable achievement leads us to suspect that there might be more than one of him . . .

The first is the author of intelligent adventure stories teeming with xenobiological ideas like "The Hooded Swan" series, "The Daedalus" series and "The Asgard" trilogy. The second is the writer of intellectual "Scientific Romances" that adroitly blend genres, philosophical and scientific ideas: "The Empire Of Fear" and "The Werewolves Of London". The third is the short story writer whose "sardonic stories of the genetic revolution" (now collected in hardback by Simon & Schuster) have been favourites with *Interzone* readers over the last few years.

But that's not all. There is a fourth, Dr. Brian Stableford, who for many years was a lecturer in sociology and produced a stream of erudite articles for *Foundation* on the history of science fiction. The same person may be number five, contributing editor to "The Science in Science Fiction", co-author of "The Third Millenium" and contributor to "The Encyclopedia of Science Fiction", and also a sixth, Dr. Stableford who teaches SF writing at the University of Reading, runs a class at the City Lit. and wrote "The Way to Write Science Fiction". Well perhaps . . . But who is is this seventh "Brian Craig" who writes "Warhammer" novels such as "Plague Demon" and "Zaragoz" and claims to be a pseudonym for "Brian Stableford"?

One at least of these seven is Guest of Honour at WINCON - see if you can find out which.

Writers Workshop *by Gwyneth Jones*

The first writers workshop that I ever attended was in a suburban living room, somewhere in Brighton. I'd persuaded a women's magazine to commission me to write about aspiring writers, and I was gathering material. It was pretty brutal stuff. The guru told them what certain magazines would buy, and the disciples scribbled it all down. The atmosphere was about as intimate as that in a dentist's waiting room. The first time I participated in a writers workshop was at an English Milford in

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1984. There was no guru, no businesslike copying down of tips. It was pandemonium on the shopfloor sometimes. And yet an amazing amount of work was being done. Ideas were sketched into shape, pulled apart, put together again. Being a part of that group - commenting on other peoples writing and taking in the comments of others - was like writing itself; orderly disorder, chaotic discipline.

I intend to bring a fixed agenda to the workshop at WINCON II - but no rule book. I expect to abandon my agenda at once, rediscover it maybe half a dozen times before Sunday. In the mean time, (to our surprise) we're going to find that we've done a lot of solid work.

If you wish to be a part of the writers workshop fill in the accompanying volunteer form and send to the address on the back page. Be sure to do this as soon as possible because places are limited and will be allocated on a first-come-first-served basis.

The Programme

WINCON II has opted to go for three programme streams - 'Home', 'Light' and 'Third' - the latter being the Fan programme. Within the programme two themes will be evident. The first, Images Of The Future, examines the way in which SF has been seen to treat particular subjects through video clips, panels and discussions. The second, The Art Of Story Telling, investigates the structure of the narrative and discusses whether the medium really is the message.

On top of all that we have items building on the parts of WINCON I that seemed to go well, including; a reprise of the Mammoth Quiz; a further look at the business of books, dealing with publishing for the single market; a follow up to Paul Dormer's talk on SF Opera cover's Fantasy Opera; and a new writers workshop run this time by Gwyneth Jones.

If you want to take part in any of this, or have some good ideas we haven't thought of, why not drop us a line or catch us up and force us to listen by buying us drinks!

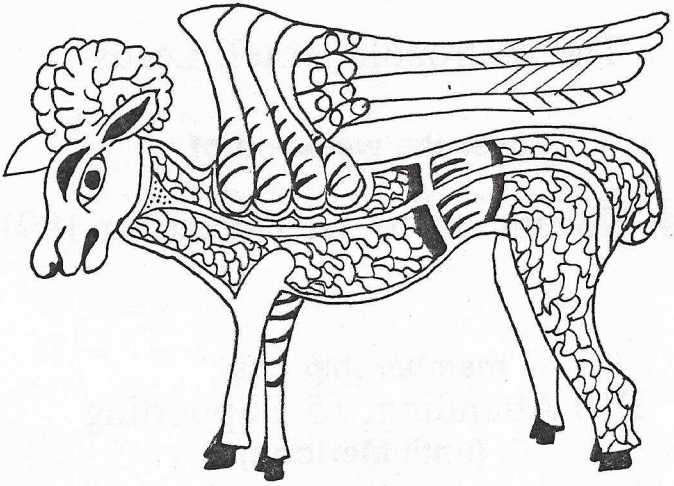
The Third Programme

Unlike the radio, out Third programme is a relief from the heavy guns of the Home and Light programmes. There will be panels, quizzes and games all in a lighter vein.

Each morning there will be an opportunity to get down and get that fannish body into real fannish shape. Above all, the Third programme will be a place where people can hang out, meet, talk and have a good time. On the Saturday night the SHSFG (South Hants. Science Fiction Group) will be holding a party (with music, dancing and silly games) to celebrate their 10th anniversary (everyone is welcome).

MabinogiCon

Unicon 12 at UCNW Bangor, North Wales
July 26-28, 1991



featuring:
sun... sea... music... mountains... cocktails... castles...
the ever-popular *Star Trek* musical... and of course...
GoH Anne McCaffrey
£11 attending, £6 supporting to
9 Friars Avenue, Bangor, Gwynedd, LL57 1BB

X-asm

A Science Fiction Convention

to be held at

The Metropole Hotel, Leeds

over the weekend of

29th November to 1st December 1991

membership cost
£10 Attending, £5 Supporting
(until Mexicon)

For further details, please contact:

X-asm, 16 Aviary Place, Leeds LS12 2NP,
West Yorkshire

The committee: Steve & Jenny Glover, Kev McVeigh, Phil Race and Nick Atty

Cake Baking Competition

Because of our association with King Alfred - he of the cake burning exploits - we're having a prize for the person who brings the best cake to the convention. There will probably be a prize for the best 'Burnt Cake', and bearing in mind the committees tastes, the 'Cake With Most Chocolate'. More details of this competition nearer the convention.

Advertising & Dealers Details

For those of you who may wish to advertise with us or wish to sell/display at WINCON II, then these are the bits that you will need to know. Contact us if you have any requirements which we haven't mentioned:

Progress Report No. 3 (Deadline: 17/05/91)			Programme Book (Deadline: 31/07/91)			Convention Facilities:		
A5	=	£8	A5	=	£25	Dealers Table	=	£7.50 each
½A5	=	£4	½A5	=	£13	Display Board	=	£7.50 each
¼A5	=	£2	¼A5	=	£7	Convention Desk	=	Free

NOTES TO ADVERTISERS
Advertisements should be twice the size actually required as it will be reduced in copying (ie. A5 should be forwarded as A4, and so on).

Your Vote Counts

As part of the fan programme we are interested in hearing from you about what you think are the best films and books ever. Fill in the slip below detailing your 10 favourites in each category and send it to the usual contact address.

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Name _____ Membership No. _____*

	Films		Books
1	_____	1	_____
2	_____	2	_____
3	_____	3	_____
4	_____	4	_____
5	_____	5	_____
6	_____	6	_____
7	_____	7	_____
8	_____	8	_____
9	_____	9	_____
10	_____	10	_____

* Only members of the convention may vote so if you are not a member you must join using the form on the reverse of this page at the same time as voting.

Membership as at 17-Mar-91

Michael Abbott	A 021	Mike Damesick	A 013	Tom Nanson	A 040
Fiona Anderson	A 030	Rosanna M. Day	A 036	Chris O'Shea 2nd	A 025
Malcolm Baldwin	A 046	Paul Dormer	A 010	Phil Plumbly	C 006
John Bark	C 001	Tim Duckworth	A 062	John Richards	C 007
Stephen Baynes	A 031	Sue Edwards	A 060	Roger Robinson	A 018
S Bennett	A 052	Sean Ellis	A 020	Marcus L. Rowland	S 023
Paul Blackwell	S 038	John English	A 064	Mark Savage	A 041
Michael Braithwaite	A 051	Gwen Funnel	A 016	Jane Smithers	A 059
John Bray	A 047	Cripin Goswell	A 056	James Steel	A 048
Ben Brown	A 027	Karen Goswell	A 055	John Stewart	A 042
Steve Bull	A 063	Nick Haines	S 015	Mike Stone	A 019
Catriona Carey	A 054	Jackie Hawkins	A 061	Marcus Streets	A 011
Mike Cheater	C 002	Stephen Hill	A 012	Donald Tait	A 049
David Cochrane	A 039	Valerie Housden	S 032	Ivan Towlson	A 022
Peter Cohen	A 037	Paul Terry Hunt	C 005	Peter Wareham	A 017
Richard Cooper	A 033	Rhodri James	A 035	Kathy Westhead	S 028
Keith Cosslett	C 003	Alan Johnson	A 053	Adrian Windish	A 057
Andy Croft	C 004	Kevin R. Joyce	A 026	Simon Windish	A 058
Rafe Culpin	A 050	Vicki King	A 014	Paul Winship	A 029
Neil Curry	S 034	Bill Longley	A 024	Anne-Marie Wright	A 044
John Dallman	A 009	Rob Meades	A 043	Peter Wright	A 045
		Andy Morris	A 008		

Contact Address: WINCON, 38 Outram Road, Southsea, Portsmouth, Hants. PO5 1QZ

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Membership Details PR 2

Full Name _____

Badge Name _____

Address _____

_____

_____ Post Code _____

I wish to join WINCON II as a:

[ ] Supporting £13

[ ] Attending £20

[ ] Converting from Supporting £7

. . . member and I enclose a cheque for £ ____ made payable to WINCON. I consent to computer storage of this information.

Signature _____ *Date* _____